

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 10522 241450Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /057 W

-----010711 241454Z /47

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5344

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 10522

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ABRAMOWITZ, MORTON I.)

SUBJ: VISIT OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ISA

ABRAMOWITZ

1. DECEMBER 14-15 VISIT BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE MORTON I. ABRAMOWITZ WAS WELL RECEIVED BY BRAZILIANS AND SERVED AS A HELPFUL MEANS FOR US TO ELICIT BRAZILIAN MILITARY OPINION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF USG-GOB SECURITY RELATIONSHIP. DEP ASST SEC ABRAMOWITZ MET WITH ACTING VICE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE NAVY, SENIOR MINISTRY OF THE AIR FORCE STAFF SECTION CHIEFS, THE ARMY VICE CHIEF OF STAFF, THREE SENIOR EMFA STAFF SECTION CHIEFS, ITAMARATY CHIEF OF THE AMERICAS DEPARTMENT, IN ADDITION TO SEVERAL OTHER RANKING SENIOR MILITARY OFFICIALS INCLUDING THE BRAZILIAN CNO WITH WHOM HE HAD DISCUSSIONS AT SOCIAL EVENTS. THE DEP ASST SEC WAS ALSO BRIEFED BY MEMBERS OF JBUSMC IN RIO AND HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY.

2. MILITARY OFFICIALS WITH WHOM DEP ASST SEC ABRAMOWITZ MET HAVE INDICATED TO THE DAO THEIR APPRECIATION FOR HIS FRANKNESS AND PROB-  
ING SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS. THEY INTERPRETED THIS TO BE AN EXPRES-  
SION OF HIS GENUINE INTEREST IN BRAZILIAN-US RELATIONS, AND AS  
EVIDENCE THAT HE CAME TO LISTEN AND LEARN. THEIR REPLIES WERE  
EQUALLY FRANK, AND THE BRAZILIANS MADE CLEAR THAT THE RELATION-  
SHIP WITH THE US HAD CHANGED, EVEN COOLED SOME. ONE SENIOR  
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PAGE 02 BRASIL 10522 241450Z

SENERAL SAID USG AND GOB "WERE GETTING A DIVORCE, BUT A  
FRIENDLY ONE." IN GENERAL, BRAZILIAN MILITARY OFFICIALS INDICATED  
THEY WANTED CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH THE US BUT ON A NEW LEVEL OF  
EQUALITY. AS SENIOR BRAZILIAN GENERAL TOLD DEP ASST SEC IN A  
PARTING SHOT, "YOU TELL YOUR FRIENDS BACK IN THE US THAT BRAZIL  
HAS MATURED, AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT."

3. IN SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE TERMS BRAZILIANS INDICATED THEIR INTEREST IN CONTINUING SOME PERSONNEL EXCHANGES AT THE WAR COLLEGE LEVEL, AND SOME CURIOSITY ABOUT POSSIBLE SHARING OF ADVANCED DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY. BRAZILIANS ALSO INDICATED THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN UNITAS AND CARIBBEAN TRAINING EXERCISES AS IN THE PAST. BRAZILIAN NAVY DESCRIBED FOR DEPT ASST SEC ABRAMOWITZ THEIR TEN YEAR MODERNIZATION PROGRAM. BRAZILIAN AIR FORCE OUT LINED IN GENERAL TERMS DEVELOPMENT OF ITS DOMESTIC AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY. BRAZILIAN ARMY SAID, POINTING TO INTERNAL SUBVERSION, IT SEES INTERNAL RATHER THAN EXTERNAL THREAT TO BRAZIL, AND INDICATED FORCES WERE TAILORED TO COPE WITH THIS THREAT.

4. SESSIONS WITH DEP ASST SEC PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH USEFUL OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR HOW BROAD CROSS-SECTION OF BRAZILIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL SEES STATE OF PRESENT AND FUTURE SECURITY RELATIONS BETWEEN USG AND BRAZIL.  
JOHNSON

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**Review Markings:**  
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